

**In the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims:**

- 1 1. (Currently Amended) An operator used in connection with a door having a counterbalance system including an axle, comprising, a motor assembly, a gear assembly operatively interconnected with said motor assembly such that said motor assembly causes rotation thereof, a bore in said gear assembly adapted to receive the axle which is rotatable with said gear assembly and a gear segment of said gear assembly that is removable to radially open said gear assembly and allow insertion of the axle into said bore, wherein said motor assembly includes a rotatable drive gear engageable with a gear surface formed on said gear assembly, wherein said gear assembly includes an outer rim, said gear surface being formed interiorly of said rim and said drive gear engaging said gear surface interiorly of said rim.
- 1 2. (Canceled).
- 1 3. (Canceled).
- 1 4. (Currently Amended) The operator of claim [[3]] 1, wherein said rim extends axially inward to an extent substantially the same as or greater than the an axial extension of said drive gear, whereby said drive gear is housed within said gear assembly.
- 1 5. (Original) The operator of claim 1, wherein said gear segment is slidingly received within said gear assembly, and is removable in a direction parallel to the axle.
- 1 6. (Currently Amended) The operator of claim 5, wherein said gear assembly includes a hub defining said bore, a rim spaced radially from said hub, and a gear surface formed on said rim and engageable with a drive gear associated with said motor and

4                   rotatable therewith, wherein said gear segment includes a removable rim portion, a  
5                   gear portion formed on said rim portion, and a removable hub portion, wherein said  
6                   rim portion and said hub portion are removable with said gear segment .

1     7. (Currently Amended) The operator of claim 6, wherein said hub is divided into a first  
2                   half and a second half, said first half being forming said removable hub portion and  
3                   interconnected with said removable portion of said rim portion by a removable wall  
4                   portion, whereby said gear segment may be removed in a unitary fashion.

1     8. (Original) The operator of claim 7, wherein said gear segment is selectively attached  
2                   to said gear assembly by a fastener.

1     9. (Original) The operator of claim 8, wherein said gear segment includes a laterally  
2                   extending tab that overlaps a portion of said gear assembly, wherein said gear  
3                   segment is attached at said tab.

1     10. (Currently Amended) The operator of claim 9, wherein said gear segment includes  
2                   a backing plate extending radially between said removable rim portion and said first  
3                   hub half and spaced axially outward of said rim, wherein said tab extends laterally  
4                   from said backing plate.

1     11. (Original) The operator of claim 10, wherein a pair of tabs extend from said backing  
2                   plate and wherein a pair of fasteners extends through said tabs into said gear  
3                   assembly to attach said gear segment thereto.

1     12. (Currently Amended) The operator of claim 11, further comprising means for  
2                   clamping said first and second hub halves of said hub together.

1     13. (Currently Amended) The operator of claim 12, wherein said means for clamping  
2                   said hub halves of said hub together includes a lip carried on at least one of said hub  
3                   halves of said hub and a receiver formed on the other of said hub halves of said hub

4 defining a slot extending in the axial direction for receipt of said lip.

1 14. (Currently Amended) The operator of claim 13, wherein said lip has an outwardly  
2 facing surface that slopes inwardly as [[it]] said lip extends outwardly from said one  
3 of said hub halves of said hub in the axial direction, and wherein said receiver has  
4 an inwardly facing surface having substantially the same slope as said outwardly  
5 facing surface on said lip, wherein said surfaces are engageable upon insertion of  
6 said lip in said receiver.

1 15. (Currently Amended) The operator of claim 12, wherein said means for clamping  
2 said hub halves of said hub together includes a pair of lips extending axially inward  
3 from said first hub half of said hub and a pair of receivers supported on said second  
4 hub half of said hub located axially inward of a radially extending end wall on said  
5 gear assembly, said receivers defining axially extending slots adapted to receive said  
6 pair of lips on said first hub half of said hub.

1 16. (Currently Amended) The operator of claim 15, wherein said means for clamping  
2 further comprises a second pair of lips extending axially outward from said second  
3 hub half of said hub and a pair of receivers supported on said first hub half of said  
4 hub and located axially outward of said end wall, said receivers defining slots  
5 adapted to receive said second pair of lips on said second hub half of said hub upon  
6 insertion of said gear segment.

1 17. (Original) The operator of claim 16, wherein said lips have outwardly facing surfaces  
2 that are tapered inwardly as the lips extend axially outward from said end wall, and  
3 said receivers have inwardly facing surfaces that taper inwardly as they extend  
4 axially outward from said end wall, said inward facing surfaces of said receivers and  
5 said outward facing surfaces of said lips being engageable upon insertion of said gear  
6 assembly.

1 18. (Currently Amended) The operator of claim 17 further comprising, a locking collar

2       slidingly received over at least one of said first and second ~~hub~~ halves of said hub  
3       and fastenable to said end wall.

1       19. (Original) The operator of claim 18, wherein said end wall carries an axially outward  
2       extending projection and wherein said locking collar includes a radially extending  
3       portion adapted to fit over said projection upon sliding said clamping ring over said  
4       hub.

1       20. (Original) An operator for use in connection with a door system having an axle  
2       comprising, an operator framework supporting an operator motor, said operator  
3       framework defining a clearance adapted to insertably receive the axle therein, a gear  
4       assembly defining a bore in which the axle is received and including a removable  
5       gear segment adapted to selectively medially open said bore to receive the axle,  
6       wherein said motor is interconnected with said gear assembly to cause rotation  
7       thereof.

1       21. (Original) The operator of claim 20, wherein said operator framework includes a  
2       channel that opens toward the axle defining said clearance.

1       22. (Original) The operator of claim 21, wherein said channel has a generally U-shaped  
2       section.

1       23. (Original) The operator of claim 20 further comprising, a drive train, wherein said  
2       drive train interconnects said motor to said gear assembly.

1       24. (Original) The operator of claim 20, wherein said operator motor is pivotally  
2       mounted.

1       25. (Currently Amended) An operator for use in connection with a door system having

2       an axle comprising, a motor assembly including a motor, said motor having a drive  
3       gear extending therefrom, means for interconnecting said motor assembly to the axle,  
4       wherein a portion of said means for interconnecting the motor assembly is removable  
5       to allow radial insertion of the axle during installation, and means for attaching said  
6       portion to said means for interconnecting, wherein said drive gear engages said  
7       means for interconnecting said motor assembly to the axle on an interior surface of  
8       said means for interconnecting said motor assembly.

1   26. (Original) The operator of claim 25, wherein said motor assembly is pivotable about  
2       an axis running parallel to the axle between a generally horizontal unlocked position  
3       and generally vertical locked position, wherein said motor assembly includes a spring  
4       engageable with said motor and adapted to counterbalance the weight of said motor  
5       in said unlocked position.

1   27. (Original) An operator used in connection with a counterbalance system having an  
2       axle comprising, a motor, a worm wheel operatively interconnected with said motor,  
3       said worm wheel lying along an axis parallel to the axle, wherein said motor is  
4       pivotable about said axis between a generally horizontal unlocked position and  
5       generally vertical locked position, and a spring having an end engageable with said  
6       motor for applying a torsional force thereto.

1   28. (Original) The operator of claim 27, wherein said spring is a coil spring located  
2       coaxially with said worm wheel and wherein said end of said spring engages said  
3       worm wheel for application of said torsional force to said motor.

1   29. (Original) The operator of claim 27, wherein said spring is adapted to counterbalance  
2       the weight of said motor in said unlocked position and wherein said spring urges said  
3       motor toward said unlocked position.